

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| In re Patent Application of |) | MAIL STOP IDS |
| |) | |
| Bradford G. BARUH |) | Group Art Unit: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Application No.: Unassigned |) | Examiner: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| Filed: Herewith |) | Confirmation No.: Unassigned |
| |) | |
| For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR |) | |
| COUPLING PIPES |) | |
| |) | |
| |) | |

**FIRST
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby submits the following information in conformance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

All of the listed documents were previously made of record in prior Application Serial No. 10/215,537, filed August 8, 2002, upon which Applicant relies for the benefits provided in 35 U.S.C. § 120.

U.S. Patent Documents:

| | | |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------|
| 176,796 | Martin | May 1876 |
| 349,146 | Duff | Sep. 1886 |
| 1,325,147 | Donnelly | Dec. 1919 |
| 1,770,852 | Hill | Jul. 1930 |
| 1,781,091 | Wilson | Nov. 1930 |
| 2,107,716 | Singleton | Feb. 1938 |
| 2,403,839 | Adolph | Jul. 1946 |
| 2,486,141 | Follo | Oct. 1949 |
| 2,576,630 | Mueller, et al. | Nov. 1951 |

U.S. Patent Documents (cont'd):

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|-----------|---------------------|-----------|
| 2,680,631 | Smith | Jun. 1954 |
| 2,690,193 | Smith | Sep. 1954 |
| 2,702,715 | Andrews | Feb. 1955 |
| 2,834,615 | Bleakley | May 1958 |
| 2,866,981 | McMinn | Jan. 1959 |
| 3,491,461 | Echterling | Jan. 1970 |
| 3,495,629 | Botsolas, et al. | Feb. 1970 |
| 3,635,504 | Borden, et al. | Jan. 1972 |
| 3,826,521 | Wilhelmsen | Jul. 1974 |
| 4,037,861 | Medney | Jul. 1977 |
| 4,109,944 | Curtin | Aug. 1978 |
| 4,218,812 | Jönsson | Aug. 1980 |
| 4,386,796 | Lyall, et al. | Jun. 1983 |
| 4,416,309 | Le Devehat | Nov. 1983 |
| 4,543,912 | Steudler | Oct. 1985 |
| 4,687,232 | Zimmerman | Aug. 1987 |
| 4,810,008 | Brodie | Mar. 1989 |
| 5,393,103 | Cretzler | Feb. 1995 |
| 5,778,935 | Koch | Jul. 1998 |
| 5,803,506 | Argersinger, et al. | Sep. 1998 |
| 5,931,200 | Mulvey et al. | Aug. 1999 |
| 5,975,587 | Wood et al. | Nov. 1999 |
| 6,209,926 | Mastro | Apr. 2001 |
| 6,224,116 | Caraveo, et al. | May 2001 |
| 6,318,761 | Robertson | Nov. 2001 |

Foreign Patent Documents:

| | | |
|--------------|----------------|-----------|
| JP 54-125526 | Japan | Sep. 1979 |
| GB 2135415 A | United Kingdom | Sep. 1984 |

The documents are being submitted within three (3) months of the filing or entry of the national stage of this application or before the first Office Action on the merits, whichever is later. Since documents are being filed within the time period set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b) no fee or statement is required.

To assist the Examiner, the documents are listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that an Examiner-initialed copy of this form be returned to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: February 13, 2004

By:

76m.2

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Registration No. 38,983

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(650) 622-2300

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| Substitute for forms 1449A/PTO & 1449B/PTO | ATTORNEY'S DKT NO. 033151-026 | APPLICATION NO. Unassigned |
| | APPLICANT Bradford G. BARUH | |
| | FILING DATE Herewith | GROUP Unassigned |
| | FIRST INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Issue/Publication Date (MM-DD-YYYY) |
| | 176,796 | | Martin | May 1876 |
| | 349,146 | | Duff | Sep. 1886 |
| | 1,325,147 | | Donnelly | Dec. 1919 |
| | 1,770,852 | | Hill | Jul. 1930 |
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| | 2,576,630 | | Mueller, et al. | Nov. 1951 |
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| | 3,826,521 | | Wilhelmsen | Jul. 1974 |
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| | 4,109,944 | | Curtin | Aug. 1978 |
| | 4,218,812 | | Jönsson | Aug. 1980 |
| | 4,386,796 | | Lyall, et al. | Jun. 1983 |
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| | 4,543,912 | | Steudler | Oct. 1985 |
| | 4,687,232 | | Zimmerman | Aug. 1987 |
| | 4,810,008 | | Brodie | Mar. 1989 |
| | 5,393,103 | | Cretzler | Feb. 1995 |
| | 5,778,935 | | Koch | Jul. 1998 |
| | 5,803,506 | | Argersinger, et al. | Sep. 1998 |
| | 5,931,200 | | Mulvey et al. | Aug. 1999 |
| | 5,975,587 | | Wood et al. | Nov. 1999 |
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| | 6,224,116 | | Caraveo, et al. | May 2001 |
| | 6,318,761 | | Robertson | Nov. 2001 |

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| | APPLICANT Bradford G. BARUH | |
| | FILING DATE Herewith | GROUP Unassigned |
| | | |

| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Examiner Initials | Document Number | Kind Code (if known) | Country | Date of Publication (MM-DD-YYYY) | Translation Yes No |
| | JP 54-125526 | | Japan | Sep. 1979 | |
| | GB 2135415 A | | United Kingdom | Sep. 1984 | |

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| Examiner Initials | Include name of author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. |
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|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Examiner Signature | | Date Considered | |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|--|

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with M.P.E.P. § 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. **SEND TO:** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.